

Article Alert

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PROGRAM BEASISWA BARU, SEBUAH KESEMPATAN BARU BAGI PELAJAR INDONESIA

Kedutaan Besar Amerika Serikat mengumumkan program beasiswa terbaru yang diberi nama Community College Summit Initiative Program. Program beasiswa ini, yang dikelola oleh Yayasan AMINEF, memungkinkan penerima beasiswa untuk belajar di Amerika Serikat untuk jangka waktu enam bulan hingga dua tahun. Bidang studi yang tersedia mencakup: Business Management and Administration; Tourism and Hospitality Management; Health Professions, termasuk Nursing; Media; Information Technology; Security and Public Safety; dan Engineering Science.

Pelamar harus memenuhi persyaratan yaitu: lulus dari SMU dan memiliki ijazah yang sah, memiliki pekerjaan atau pengalaman kerja yang berkaitan dengan bidang studi, memiliki kemampuan berbahasa Inggris yang memadai untuk mengikuti perkuliahan setelah enam bulan pelatihan bahasa Inggris di Amerika, mengirimkan formulir pendaftaran, dan memiliki nilai Institutional TOEFL atau Prediction TOEFL minimal 500 atau TOEIC 650 (hanya nilai dua tahun terakhir yang berlaku). Batas waktu pendaftaran adalah 1 Nopember 2006. Beasiswa mencakup biaya perjalanan ke dan dari Amerika; tunjangan biaya hidup bulanan selama berada di Amerika; biaya kuliah; asuransi kesehatan dan biaya kegiatan pengayaan budaya.

Silakan kunjungi "Programs for Indonesians" di situs AMINEF dengan alamat www.aminef.or.id untuk informasi program beasiswa selengkapnya dan men-download formulir pendaftaran. Pelamar yang berminat harus mengirimkan formulir pendaftaran ke AMINEF rangkap tiga (satu berkas asli dan 2 berkas fotokopi). Pertanyaan bisa diajukan ke infofulbright@aminef.or.id.

PROGRAM DIVERSITY IMMIGRANT VISA 2008 (DV-2008)

DV-2008 Lottery (atau "Green Card Lottery") dimulai tanggal 4 Oktober 2006 dan akan berakhir tanggal 3 Desember 2006. Untuk informasi lebih lanjut mengenai Green Card Lottery dapat Anda lihat di website <http://jakarta.usembassy.gov/consular/DV2008-indo.pdf>

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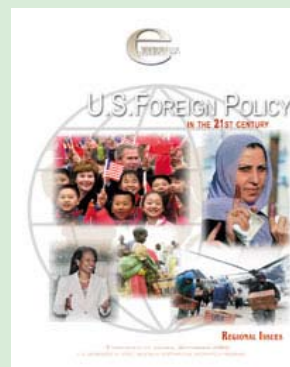
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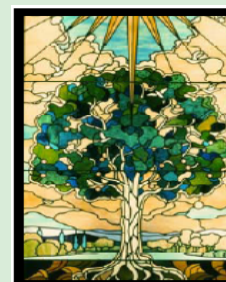
NEW ONLINE PUBLICATIONS



U.S. Foreign Policy in the 21st Century Regional Issues

Introduced by Secretary Rice, this electronic journal features essays by each regional bureau Assistant Secretary outlining U.S. policy in that region. Each essay also explains the Assistant Secretary's personal vision for that region, and outlines how the Secretary's "transformational diplomacy" will help our international partners build and sustain democratic, well-governed states.

<http://usinfo.state.gov/journals/itps/0906/ijpe/ijpe0906.htm>



United States Department of State

2006 Annual Report on International Religious Freedom

"There is no more fundamental issue for the United States than freedom of religion and religious conscience. This country was founded on that basis, and it is at the heart of democracy."

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice
March 2006

International Religious Freedom Report 2006

"The United States seeks to promote religious freedom and tolerance and build a more peaceful world for the peoples of all faiths," Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said at the release of the International Religious Freedom Report September 15, 2006

The U.S. Department of State released the eighth annual report to Congress on September 15. The 2006 report examines 197 countries' commitment to advancing religious freedom. The United States hopes the report will serve as a resource for those who share concerns about religious freedom, Rice said. "We also hope that it will serve as a source of encouragement to those whose plight is documented in the report and whose right to believe and practice and worship as they choose is still denied by their governments."

<http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/irf/2006/>

Columbus Day 2006

Columbus Day is the annual U.S. commemoration of Christopher Columbus's landing in the New World (at San Salvador island, also known as Watling Island, today part of the British Bahamas) on October 12, 1492. [http://usinfo.state.gov/scv/life_and_culture/holidays/columbus_day.html]

DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

1. Lemov, Penelope A DOSE OF TRANSPARENCY (Governing, September 2006, pp. 50-54)

Increasingly, health-care costs and provider performance are becoming the business of patients, notes the author. Many states, including Florida, Maryland, New York, and Texas, are providing Web sites with comparative information on hospitals, physicians, prices, and performance rankings. However, one researcher notes that there is "little empirical evidence that consumers have altered their behavior" by being given this information. On the other hand, quality of performance of physicians and hospitals might improve, since they would be eager to remove themselves from the bottom of the list.

2. Sellers, Patrick J.; Denton, Laura M. PRESIDENTIAL VISITS AND MIDTERM SENATE ELECTIONS (Presidential Studies Quarterly, Vol. 36, No. 3, September 2006, pp. 410-432)

This article examines domestic presidential visits during midterm Senate elections between 1982 and 2002. While presidential visits can boost Senate candidates' popularity, presidents are not always working to further the collective goals of their party when making these visits. A president's individual electoral interests lead him to visit places where he can strengthen his electoral coalition or bolster his supporters' commitment, the authors argue. Presidents are also likely to visit states with higher electoral votes more often. "The president will always have the opportunity, and possibly the incentive, to place his own interests first," the authors write.

3. York, Byron THE DEATH OF THE MODERATE DEMOCRAT (National Review, vol. 58, no. 16, September 11, 2006, pp. 32-34)

The moderate, centrist Democrat is a thing of the past, York writes. Rankings of how liberal Democrats are compared to how conservative Republicans are show that Democrats in recent years have moved farther to the left than Republicans have to the right. Sen. Joe Lieberman's loss to Ned Lamont in the Connecticut Democratic primary election is a sign to Democrats to move more to the left. Moderates were successful in helping Clinton get elected and re-elected but at the same time lost control of Congress. Now, the author writes, instead of trying to find a middle ground between Democrats and Republicans, Democrats instead have to find a middle ground between liberal factions and mainstream Democratic voters.

ECONOMIC SECURITY AND TRADE

4. Brittan, Samuel THE GLOBAL IMPLICATIONS OF A DOLLAR COLLAPSE (The International Economy, vol. 20, no. 3, Summer 2006, pp. 24-27)

The author, a columnist with the Financial Times, discusses the political and economic implications of a dollar collapse and describes possible scenarios. He says that if the dollar collapsed, one result could be an offsetting boost given to demand in the Euro area and in Asia. At the other extreme, the U.S. would be accused of deliberately weakening its own currency for domestic political reasons and some politicians could retaliate through protectionist barriers, attempts at competitive devaluation, or ill-conceived taxes on international capital movements. The most likely trigger for a dollar collapse would be that of the U.S. housing market, but such a drastic fall in the dollar's external value could well be the signal for Asian authorities to cease stockpiling assets and even start dumping them. If the world is experiencing excess demand, as the pressure on oil and commodity markets and the abundance of credit suggest, a modest recessionary movement in the U.S. might be good. Both the immediate economic prospects and the behavior of international interest rate differentials would be bearish for the dollar. It is an unfortunate aspect of both financial commentary and journalism that a five percent movement up or down in any key variable in one day would create huge excitement, whereas a much bigger movement spread gradually over a couple of months may hardly be noticed.

5. Jimenez, Emmanuel Y.; Murthi, Mamta INVESTING IN THE YOUTH BULGE (Finance and Development, vol. 43, no. 3, September 2006, pp. 40-43)

Jimenez and Murthi, both with the World Bank, say that many developing countries are experiencing the largest "youth bulge" in history. The authors discuss the risks and opportunities that this youth bulge can have on economic growth and poverty reduction. They recommend focusing on policies and goals that promote high employment, such as achieving universal primary and secondary education, making reforms in the trade and labor markets, and improving the investment climate for human capital. With the right investments, they write, developing countries can turn their large youth populations into a boon.

GLOBAL ISSUES

6. KATRINA - THE FAILURES OF SUCCESS (World Watch, Vol. 19, No. 5, September/October 2006)

To mark the one-year anniversary since Hurricane Katrina struck the U.S. Gulf Coast in August 2005, World Watch magazine devotes this entire issue to reporting on the causes and the results of the devastation. Editor Thomas Pugh notes that while Katrina was not the worst storm to ever hit the U.S., the global media coverage provided vivid and compelling images of the destruction. According to Pugh, the scale of Katrina's disaster was magnified due to three successful government policies that had disastrous results -- first, reengineering the Mississippi River to support marine traffic destroyed natural soil accretion and eroded protective wetlands. Additionally, global warming has made extreme

weather events more frequent and the U.S. government has not done enough to recognize and mitigate the problem. Finally, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, due to tax cuts and their effects on agency budgets, did not have the resources to respond effectively.

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

7. Daalder, Ivo; Goldgeier, James GLOBAL NATO (Foreign Affairs, vol. 85, no. 5, September/October 2006, pp.105-113)

NATO's functions have evolved since NATO was established in 1949. As the world's premier multinational military organization, NATO is essential to the management of current international crises, varying from peacekeeping in Afghanistan to tsunami relief in Indonesia. Ivo Daalder, Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution, and James Goldgeier, Professor of Political Science at George Washington University and Adjunct Senior Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations, argue that NATO would "enjoy greater legitimacy" if it were to open its membership to non-European democracies aligned with NATO's goals. Countries like Japan and Australia would contribute to NATO's efforts because an increasingly global world demands an increasingly global coalition, and "global threats cannot be tackled by a regional organization," the authors note.

U.S. SOCIETY & VALUES

8. Florida, Richard WHERE THE BRAINS ARE (Atlantic Monthly, vol. 298, no. 3, October 2006, pp. 34-36)

The author notes that America's educated elite cluster in a few major metropolitan areas, leaving the rest of the country behind -- a demographic realignment that is every bit as significant as previous migrations in U.S. history. Calling it "means migration", Florida writes that the growing concentration of affluent, educated and talented people to areas such as San Francisco, Boston, New York, Washington, D.C., Seattle and Denver has a multiplier effect on local economic growth. The growing wealth disparity between these magnet regions and the rest of the country will continue to grow, predicts the author, a phenomenon that "will be one of the great political and cultural challenges of the next generation."



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No.10, October 2006

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☐ New E-Journal, September 2006 "U.S. Foreign Policy in the 21st Century Regional Issues"